

Application No.: 09/913,635

Docket No.: 209565-81763

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) The brake pad as claimed in claim 31, wherein the brake pad includes a carrier plate and a friction lining applied thereto.

Claims 20-27 (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) The brake pad of claim 31, wherein at least one of said first, second, and third retaining springs ~~one of the two spring elements and the third spring element~~ are configured in the shape of a closed wire ring as a sheet metal spring or a wire spring.

29. (Currently amended) The brake pad of claim 31, further comprising a retaining plate configured as a damping plate and at least one retaining member configured as a hook or eyelet for embracing one of the first, second, and third retaining springs, ~~spring element wherein said at least one retaining member is attached to said retaining plate and to at least one of said first, second, and third retaining springs~~.

Claim 30 (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) Brake pad and brake piston assembly, comprising:

a brake piston having an axis and an outer surface encircled by a circumferential groove,

a first, second, and third retaining spring coupled to a brake pad, wherein said first, second, and third retaining springs engage[[s]] said circumferential [[piston]] groove, thereby detachably coupling the brake pad to the piston,

wherein the first and second retaining springs ~~includes two spring elements~~ are arranged opposite each other with respect to the piston axis, and wherein said first and second retaining springs each include each spring element having a [[first]] spring portion which applies an axial spring force at a contact point location on opposite sides of the piston to urge the brake pad against the piston, and wherein said third retaining spring includes a third spring element

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~~arranged between said two spring elements having~~ a [[second]] spring portion which applies a radial spring force to the brake pad at one contact point location in a vertical direction which is generally perpendicular to the piston axis,

wherein said first, second and third retaining springs are separate from one another.

Claims 32-36 (Canceled)